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ANNUAL REPORT

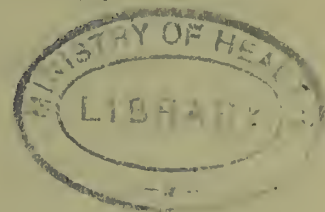
on the

PUBLIC HEALTH and SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

of the

DORCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT

for the Year 1948



To the Chairman and Members of the Dorchester Rural District Council.

This is a compact area situated in Mid-South Dorset, forms the land boundary of the Borough of Weymouth, and comprises 128,606 acres.

The occupations are almost entirely agricultural.

The estimated number of inhabited houses is 4,550

The number of Council-owned houses is 237

In the hutted Camps the number of occupied huts is . . . 90

The Rateable Value of the Area is £74,470

One penny Rate produces approximately £310.

VITAL STATISTICS. The latest available figures are those for the year 1947, so the figures under this heading (only) refer to that period:-

Resident Population, middle of the year (estimated by the Registrar General 15,760

<u>Live Births</u>	Males	Females
Legitimate	148	117
Illegitimate	8	7
Total	<u>156</u> =====	<u>124</u> =====

Still Births

Legitimate	1	2
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Total Births	283
Total Deaths	172
Total Deaths under One year of Age	11.
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	17.9
Death Rate per 1,000 population	10.9
Infantile Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births	39.3
Ditto for England and Wales	41.

Causes of Death

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	1
Other tuberculosis	-	1
Syphilitic disease	1	-
Influenza	-	2

Cancer:-

Buccal cavity and oesophagus	1	-
Stomach and duodenum	3	2
Uterus	-	1
Breast	-	2
Other sites	9	5
Diabetes	1	2
Cerebral vascular lesions	6	14
Diseases of Heart	27	14
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	-
Bronchitis	3	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	8	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1
Peptic Ulcer	1	1
Appendicitis	2	-
Other diseases of the digestive system	4	4
Nephritis	3	-
Premature birth	-	2
Congenital malformations etc	7	-
Violent Causes	5	-
Other defined causes	15	13

100 72

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. The following cases were notified during 1948.

Anterior Poliomyelitis 1; Cerebrospinal Meningitis 1;
Diphtheria 1; Dysentery 4; Erysipelas 4; Measles 53;
Meningitis (Meningococcal) 1; Pneumonia, (Acute Primary) 8;
Puerperal pyrexia 1; Scarlet Fever 11; Typhoid Fever 1;
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary 11; Tuberculosis Non-pulmonary 3;
Whooping Cough 86. Total 186.

DIPHTHERIA. This was a mild case in a School girl aged 11 yrs, who had been immunised over 5 years before. All contacts at her home and school were negative.

MEASLES Odd cases (One to three) were notified from 12 Parishes widely distributed. At Warmwell Families Camp there were 28 cases among the children extending over June and July.

MENINGITIS This was a female visitor to Puddletown area aged 3 yrs. She was taken ill suddenly and died on the following day. A post-mortem examination revealed the cause of death as Acute Meningococcal meningitis. A large number of contacts were swabbed both at Puddletown and Dorchester and one carrier was discovered and isolated in hospital.

SCARLET FEVER. Eleven cases were notified from eight parishes. All were mild and none appeared to be associated with any school or milk supply. They appeared in eight different months.

TYPHOID FEVER This case was imported by Air from Egypt and was isolated and treated in the South Somerset Isolation Hospital.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Cases were notified in every month except December, though mainly in July and August, as follows:-

Melcombe Bingham 12, Piddletrenthide 10, Cattistock 10, Chesilbourne 8, Puddletown 8, Owermoigne 6, There were odd cases at 17 other Parishes but only one at Chickerell.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following cases (including ex-service men) have been notified during the year:-

<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-pulmonary</u>		
<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
8	3	11	-	3	3

Cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year:-

21	15	36	4	8	12
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IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The position at the half year was as follows:-

- (1) Number of children who have completed a full course of Diphtheria Immunisation at any time up to 30th June 1948.

<u>Age</u>								
Under 1.	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15 yrs.	
7.	185	139	79	74	653	965	2102.	

- (2) Number of children, including above, who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation during the 6 months to 30th June 1948.

<u>Age</u>								
Under 1.	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15 yrs.	
7	79	8	3	4	7	-	108	

- (3) Number of Children who had reinforcing injection - 9.

From the 5th July 1948, the responsibility for providing this Service has been passed over to the Dorset County Council by Act of Parliament.

As our scheme has now terminated, I take this opportunity to thank the members of this Council for the support they gave me over 14 years ago when I started the Immunisation Scheme in this District. In those days no help was forthcoming from the Dorset County Council or even from the Ministry of Health. The Council provided the required £200. to enable me to immunise.

(I estimated), 800 children. The Scheme was so successful that 963 children were immunised at the 23 different clinics arranged and in addition to these 118 Rural children were treated in the Borough of Dorchester Clinics, giving a total of 1,081 children who were residents in the Dorchester Rural District who completed the course of three injections in the first year. Many parents are thankful that this scheme was so well and truly launched.

For the area there was an average acceptance of 62% in the first year.

The total cost per child, estimated at 5/-, was actually 4/8½d.

Finally my sincere thanks are due to the School Teachers, whose kind co-operation so greatly contributed to the success of the Scheme.

DAIRIES.

Total No. of Registered Premises	= 460
" " " " Cowkeepers	= 435
" " " Inspections made	= 206.
No. of Statutory Notices served	= Nil.
" " " " expired	= Nil.
" " " " complied with	= 13. (all expired prior to 1948).
" " " " not complied with, including those outstanding from previous years	= 211.
No. of Informal Notices served	= Nil.
" " " " expired	= Nil.
" " " " complied with	= 5. (all expired prior to 1948).
" " " " not complied with, including those outstanding from previous years	= 73.
No. of Premises at which alterations to cowstalls have been effected as a result of Informal Notices	= 5.
No. of Premises at which alterations to cowstalls have been effected voluntarily	= 13.
No. of Premises in respect of which plans for, or proposals of alterations, have been received	= 31.

MILK SAMPLING.

No. of Milk Samples satisfactory	= 38.
" " " " unsatisfactory	= 6.
Total No. of samples taken	= 44.

MILK BOTTLES.

No. of Milk Bottles satisfactory	= 10.
" " " " unsatisfactory	= 5.
Total No. of samples taken	= 15.

CHURN WASHINGS.

No. of Churn Washings satisfactory	= 3.
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MEAT INSPECTION. - Government Slaughterhouses - see attached list.

In addition one visit was made to a private slaughterhouse.

Food Inspection.

No. of visits = 13.

<u>Condemned.</u>	Tinned foodstuffs	- 3 qrs. 24 lbs. 1 oz.
	Other	" - 5 cwt. 8 ozs.

FOOD POISONING. One case was notified as such and was admitted to hospital, where it was found not to be food poisoning but Cerebral haemorrhage.

RATS & MICE DESTRUCTION.

No. of visits to private premises	= 74.
" " " " business	= 8.
" " other visits	= 42.
Total.	124.

Types of infestation found :-

Major	= 4.
Minor secondary	= 2.
Minor	= 27.

The following Parishes have polluted or insufficient water supply: Winterborne Abbas, Winterborne Steepleton, Alton Pancras, Langton Herring, Frampton & Toller Porcorum.

Privately Owned Piped Supplies in 19 Parishes:- Abbotsbury, Bradford Peverell, Chesilborne (Part), Langton Herring, Little Bredy, Long Bredy, Minterne, Osmington (Part), Portesham, Sydling (Part), Toller Fratrum, Up Cerne (Part), Winterborne Abbas (Part), Winterborne Steepleton (Part), Winterborne Came, Winterborne Herringston, Winterborne Monkton, Winterborne St. Martin (Part), Wynford Eagle.

MEAT INSPECTION - GOVERNMENT SLAUGHTERHOUSES - YEAR 1948

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Goats
No. killed	225	279	6	239	5	1
No. inspected	225	279	6	239	5	1
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT T.B.</u>						
Whole Carcasses condemned.	-	1	-	2	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	98	87	1	102	3	-
% of No. Inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	43.5%	31.6%	17%	43.5%	80%	-
<u>T.B. ONLY.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	11	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	17	46	1	1	-	-
% of No. inspected affected with T.B. only.	8%	20.4%	17%	.42%	-	-
Carcasses affected with T.B. & Other diseases.	13	63	-	-	-	-
% of No. inspected affected with T.B. & other diseases together.	5.8%	22.6%	-	-	-	-

TOTAL WEIGHT CONDEMNED. 7 ton 15 cwt 20 lbs.

Public Authorities & Water Co's Piped Supplies in 22 Parishes:-
Bincombe, Broadmayne, Buckland Newton, Cattistock, Cerne Abbas,
Charminster, Chickerell, Chilfrome, Dewlish, Fleet, Frome St.
Quinton, Frome Vauchurch. Godmanstone, Maiden Newton, Osmington,
Overmoigne, Roxwell, Puddlehinton, Puddletown, Piddletrenthide,
Warmwell, Watercombe, West Knighton. A piped supply is now
being installed for the Parish of West Stafford.

All piped supplies are constant with the exception of that of
Langton Herring.

Proportion of houses supplied with water.

- (a) Percentage of the entire population of the District
which is supplied with piped water direct to house = 40.
- (b) Percentage of the entire population of the District
which is supplied with piped water by stand-pipes = 20.
- (c) Percentage of population of the Parishes having a
piped supply, which is supplied direct to house = 59.
- (d) Percentage of population of the parishes having a
piped supply, which is supplied by stand-pipes = 28.

No supply is liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

The piped water supplies have generally been satisfactory,
but owing to the dry period experienced, it was necessary to
haul water over a lengthy period to Langton Herring.

The Officers of the Public Health Department inspected the
sources of supply of all unsatisfactory samples, and informed
the Owners of such supplies of methods for improving the quality
of the water. This resulted in improvement in many of the sour-
ces of the water.

Samples from Public Supplies.

All the samples, with the exception of one, taken from Forston
Pumping Station were quite satisfactory, before and after chlor-
ination.

Five adverse reports were received in respect of samples of
water taken from the Maiden Newton Waterworks, and bacteriolo-
gically examined. My recommendation contained in the Report
for 1946, with regard to the installation of a Chloraminating
Plant at Maiden Newton has not yet been carried out.

WATER SAMPLING.

No. of water samples	satisfactory	= 190.
" " "	unsatisfactory	= 79.
" " "	suspicious	= 78.
Total No. of samples	taken	= 347.

HOUSE INSPECTION.

No. of Houses Inspected	= 940.
No. of subsequent visits paid to above houses	= 608.

No. of houses rendered fit after service of informal notices
 (a) Under Public Health Act. = 25.
 (b) Under Housing Act. = 6.
 No. of houses rendered fit after service of Statutory notices
 (a) Under Public Health Act. = 8.
 (b) Under Housing Act. = Nil.
 No. of houses demolished as unfit for human habitation = 4.
 No. of houses found to be overcrowded = 4.
 No. of cases of overcrowding abated during year = 1.

NUISANCES.

Total No. of Nuisances inspected = 125.
 Total No. of re-inspections of nuisances = 224.
 Total No. of nuisances abated = 65 (Includes 23 from 1946/7).
 " " " " not abated = 82 (Includes 14 Outstanding
 from 1946/7).
 Total No. of nuisances reported
 as a nuisance but not existent = 15.

A written complaint came to me from a resident at Chickerell that "the drinking water comes from a Whale, which sometimes smells", but fortunately, upon investigation, no such animal was found on the premises.

CLOSETS.

New W.Cs = 6.
 W.C. Conversions from the closets = 10.
 New E.Cs = 5.

BUILDING BYELAWS.

Total No. of visits made in connection with building byelaws = 594.

BUILDING LICENSING.

Total No. of visits made in connection with building licensing = 174.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

	<u>No. on Regis- ter.</u>	<u>No. of Inspect- ions.</u>	<u>No. of Written Notices</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced	43	15	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies	.	.	-
(a) Subject to Local Authorities Order	80	29.	-
(b) Others	-	-	-
(iii) Other premises under Act (exclud- ing outworkers premises).	20.	26.	-
<u>Total.</u>	<u>143.</u>	<u>70.</u>	<u>-</u>

Cases in which defects were found = Nil.

OUTWORKERS.

Gloves (Machine Line No.13)	=	9.
Total No. of Outworkers	=	9.

C. D. DAY, M.A., D.P.H.
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